

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NEA-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 RSR-01 /130 W
----- 095047

R 031216 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2876

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6985

E. O. 11652: GDS 1979

TAGS: MARR, SEATO

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF SEATO

1. SEATO SECGEN SENT EMBASSY THE VIEWS OF THE THAI AND PHILIPPINE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PROPOSED REORIENTATION OF SEATO.
 2. PHILIPPINE COMMENTS GENERALLY GO ALONG WITH SUGGESTED CHANGES IN EMPHASIS SUCH AS REDUCED STRESS ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES, LOWER ORGANIZATION PROFILE, AND LESS STRIDENTLY ANTI- COMMUNIST INFORMATION POLICY.
 3. THAI VIEWS ALSO AGREE WITH PROPOSED REORIENTATION EXCEPT IN MILITARY AREA. THAI FEEL THAT " A CHANNEL TO SEATO MILITARY CAPABILITIES MUST REMAIN OPEN IN CASE A NEED SHOULD ARISE FOR SEATO TO PERFORM ITS MILITARY ROLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE CHARTER." THAI ALSO WANT SEATO TO RETAIN ALL OF ITS MILITARY PLANS.
 4. WE JUST RECEIVED ADVANCE COPY OF NEW ZEALAND VIEWS WHICH WERE CONVEYED TO SECGEN TODAY. NZ UNEQUIVOCALLY STATES THAT IT INTENDS
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TO MAINTAIN ITS ADHERENCE TO THE MANILA TREATY, BUT THAT IT DOES NOT ATTACH THE SAME IMPORTANCE TO SEATO ORGANIZATION. NZ SAYS ORGANIZATION SHOULD BE PROGRESSIVELY PHASED DOWN TO PERMIT SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN ITS ACTIVITIES AND A STEADY REDUCTION IN THE LEVEL OF NEW ZEALAND'S PARTICIPATION. PROPOSED CHANGES INCLUDE DE- EMPHASIS OF MILITARY SIDE AND OF ANTI- COMMUNIST PUBLICITY.

5. COPIES OF THREE PAPERS BEING POUCHED TO EA/ RA AND CINCPAC POLAD.
UNGER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: MARR, SEATO
To: CANBERRA
CINCPAC
EA
LONDON
MANILA
PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC

WELLINGTON

Type: TE

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